

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Akinobu Sato, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/573,942  
Filing Date: March 29, 2006  
Title: Method for Smoothing a Solid Surface  
Conf. No. 5411

Examiner: Michael A. Band  
Art Unit: 1723

January 13, 2012  
Fremont, California

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Applicants request a three-month extension of time in which to submit this Response to Office Action. This extension extends the deadline for submission until January 19, 2012. Payment of the fee by credit card is being authorized concurrently with the submission of this communication.



David N. Lathrop

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

This communication is submitted with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in response to the office action mailed July 19, 2011 (referred to herein as "Office Action").